

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

Hon. Gordon J. Quist

v.

Case No. 1:18-cr-00214

JOE LOUIS FIELDS, III,

Defendant.

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

Pursuant to W.D. MICH. L.C.R.R. 11.1, I conducted a plea hearing in the captioned case on June 28, 2019, after receiving the written consent of defendant and all counsel. At the hearing, defendant Joe Louis Fields, III entered a plea of guilty to Count 1 of the Indictment in exchange for the undertakings made by the government in the written plea agreement. In Count 1 of the Indictment , defendant is charged with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846,841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and 841(b)(1)(C).

On the basis of the record made at the hearing, I find that defendant is fully capable and competent to enter an informed plea; that the plea is made knowingly and with full understanding of each of the rights waived by defendant; that it is made voluntarily and free from any force, threats, or promises, apart from the promises in

the plea agreement; that the defendant understands the nature of the charge and penalties provided by law; and that the plea has a sufficient basis in fact.

Accordingly, I recommend that defendant's plea of guilty to Count 1 of the Indictment be accepted, that the court adjudicate defendant guilty, and that the written plea agreement be considered for acceptance at the time of sentencing. Acceptance of the plea, adjudication of guilt, acceptance of the plea agreement, and imposition of sentence are specifically reserved for the district judge.

Date: July 1, 2019

/s/ Phillip J. Green

PHILLIP J. GREEN

United States Magistrate Judge

**NOTICE TO PARTIES**

You have the right to de novo review of the foregoing findings by the district judge. Any application for review must be in writing, must specify the portions of the findings or proceedings objected to, and must be filed and served no later than 14 days after the plea hearing. *See* W.D. MICH. L.C.R.R. 11.1(d).